

The British Broadcasting Corporation Microcomputer 6502 Second Processor

The 6502 Second Processor has been designed for the serious computer user who wants to get even more from his British Broadcasting Corporation Microcomputer.

Increased performance

With the 6502 Second Processor you will be able to write bigger, more elaborate programs than you could before. Together, the 6502 Second Processor and BBC* Microcomputer make up a system which offers computing power comparable to that provided by machines costing twice as much.

As well as writing your own programs, you will have access to a range of exciting new programs as soon as they become available. These will make full use of the additional computing power provided by the 6502 Second Processor. One of these programs drives the Bitsik computer aided drawing system, which allows the user to create shapes on the screen and produce outstanding graphics, architects' drawings, etc.

The BBC Microcomputer was designed with a second processor in mind and incorporates Acorn's unique Tube interface. This provides a high speed data channel for the addition of a second processor. So connecting the 6502 Second Processor is simplicity itself.

The 6502 Second Processor is presented in a matching cream coloured case and has been styled to blend with, and sit alongside, your BBC Microcomputer.

Increased memory

The 6502 Second Processor has 64K of memory. The main processor's 32K of RAM is used for the screen memory, filing system work spaces, etc. This leaves the Second Processor memory free for your applications programs.

Assembly language programs up to 60K bytes (code and data) can be written for the Second Processor, with all the features of the BBC operating system still available across the Tube interface. When writing in BASIC, 16K of memory is needed for the interpreter. Using the special Hi-BASIC supplied with the 6502 Second Processor, 44K is available for BASIC programs. (Non 'Hi' versions of BASIC, LISP, FORTH, VIEW, etc will provide 30K of user RAM, plus a separate 14K of memory which can be used for assembly language routines or BASIC variable storage.)

In addition, with the 6502 Second Processor connected, the full character set is completely redefinable without using any program memory.

Increased speed

The 6502 Second Processor works at a clock rate of 3MHz. This means that, depending on what you are asking your computer to do, it is likely to do it up to 50% faster than before.

Easy to use

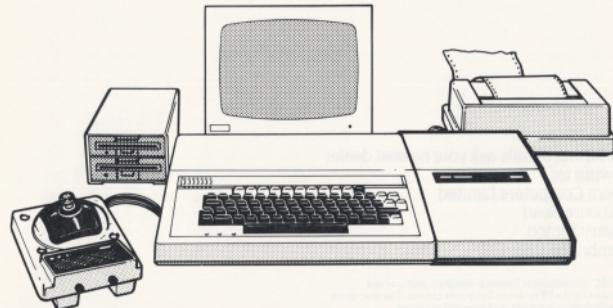
Although the 6502 Second Processor is designed for the serious user, it is very easy to use. Each purchaser will receive a user guide and two additional ROMs. One of these ROMs will update your disc filing system or Econet® filing system (if fitted). The other will provide you with Hi-BASIC. It contains the same language as the BASIC ROM you already have in your micro, but allows you to make full use of the additional memory provided by the 6502 Second Processor. Instructions on how to fit the two ROMs inside your BBC Microcomputer are supplied with the Second Processor. Installation is very simple, but if you would prefer not to fit the ROMs yourself, then your local dealer will do it for you.

Technical data

The 6502 Second Processor has a 64K Random Access Memory (RAM) which provides 60K bytes of RAM available for assembly language programs. The Second Processor operates at a clock rate of 3MHz.

You will need a Model B BBC Microcomputer with a version 1.2 machine operating system, a colour or monochrome monitor (or television set), and a cassette recorder or a disc drive. If required, the version 1.2 MOS will be fitted to the BBC Microcomputer, free of charge, when the 6502 Second Processor is purchased.

The unit measures approximately 205mm × 345mm and has its own power supply.



A typical configuration